



# DISTRICT NEWS

District Governor 2016-2017 Lion Steve Shields

## DG Message

The real work of the District Governor has now started in earnest, beginning with a full three day weekend at the Council of Governors. More than 300 pages of reports and requests to peruse and debate that requires a high level of concentration that I have not had to exercise since retiring. No chance of a nap after lunch but that is now a rarity at home anyway since Jean has joined me in the 'third age'.

Just a quick note on one subject that we were reminded of, at the risk of drawing yawns, and that is the need to have Risk Assessments for all activities. Those of us involved with local Council events have all 'i's dotted and 't's crossed but all the small events "that we have done the same way for years" need to be covered too, otherwise if something does go wrong it gives the Insurance Companies a get out. Dave Handley produced great guidance last year and John Fitchett, who has taken over the District role, is available to give any advice necessary.

Thanks to everyone who came to the District Handover, it was a very pleasant lunch and congratulations to the recipients of the awards made by IPDG Chris held over from last year.



Chris hands over to Steve



Steve hands over to Theresa

I was able to welcome some new faces to the first Cabinet Meeting which is always a pleasure, whilst not forgetting the stalwarts who help to keep the District business in good order each year. You will keep hearing a little bit more about the plans for our District Convention in Hanley. The organising team are full of ideas which should make for a weekend of great fun. I think I shall be in for a few surprises because everything so far has been on a need to know basis!

Many of you will have seen David Baxter-Smith live at Convention or at one of the many Prostate Cancer Screening sessions around the District, but if not, take a look at the video produced by Fleet Lions. It is easily accessed on the home page of the District website. Prostate Cancer screening is one of the Centennial targets and I'm sure the video will encourage more clubs to get involved.

The DG Team 2016-7



I hope everyone enjoyed the Olympics and the amazing success of Team GB, Uttoxeter has been mentioned so many times on national radio and television of late, nothing to do with the Lions Club but that great competitor Adam Peaty, of whom the town is rightly very proud.

Best wishes  
Steve



## A Warm Welcome to New Members in August

Cannock  
**Lesley Pearce**

Chester  
**Bev Pace**  
**Denise Punnett**

Llandudno  
**Frank Bradfield**



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### DG partner appeal raises over £5,000 for Mencap

IPDG Chris Aked's wife, Gillie, presented a cheque for £5358.57 to a representative of Mencap at the District handover event in Chester. Since the DG's Partner's appeal was announced last August, clubs through the district had responded with generous donations while Gillie had also collected funds from other events. Mencap is one of the leading UK charities for people with learning disabilities and has, among its affiliate organisations, 42 Gateway clubs in our District.

At the handover Gillie thanked all those who had supported the appeal. The cheque was received by Richard DeNiese, network coordinator for Mencap, who said how much the donation was appreciated. He added that it would be used to further develop relationships between the Royal Mencap Society and the Gateway clubs within the BS District.

### Environmental Monthly News.

Articles about 'planting wildflowers' and 'identify the most tree leaves, children's scrapbook competition'.

Link for Lions Environmental Newsletters:-

<http://www.lions105bs.org.uk/>

then click on Community Projects



Kind regards,  
Christopher Evans.

## Llandudno Golf

On Thursday 18th August, The Lions Club of Llandudno held a charity golf competition at North Wales Golf Club, Llandudno. The event was the idea of Lions Club President Stuart Lowndes. Stuart said of the day “ It was very successful. Everybody enjoyed the day. The competition was open to both ladies and gents and open to members and non-members of North Wales Golf Club.

This was a Stableford competition and the over all winners are Martin Smythson and Phil Holden with 45 points (NWGC). Second was P Huxley and E Perfect with 45 points (Padeswood and Buckley Golf Club). Third was Keith Thomson and Dave Furlong with 44 points (NWGC). The captain of NWGC presented the players with their prizes.

Only one point separated the top 7 players with the result being declared on a card playoff.

Lion President Stuart is pleased to announce that the event raised £1,061. Part of which will now go towards the Prostate Cancer Awareness Clinic (which will be held on 24th April 2017) and to the new Lifeboat station being built in Llandudno.

Martin Smith—Llandudno Lions



Winners of the Lions Club of Llandudno's golf competition. (L-R) NWGC Captain Mr T. I. G. Berrisford, Mr Phil Holden, Mr Martyn Smythson, Lion President Mr Stuart Lowndes

## Your Communication Team ...

**Chair, David Elliott**

**PR, Chris Oatway**

**Webmaster, Dave Allen**

**Visiting Lion Competition, Sarah Cowling**

**District Newsletter, John Whitehouse**



The team will supplement existing communication to Lions by emailing all members monthly, with links to District information and District newsletter. It is proposed to enhance communication to non-Lions by promotion of District website, Facebook and Twitter. It is suggested to use the description “Lions (Community Service Volunteers)” for non-Lions communication.

Using a consistent (and correct) Lions logo will help to achieve recognition.

Please can club secretaries update and add their email address on MyLCI. 75% of our members are showing an email address on MyLCI but this is likely to be an understatement.

Take a look at our District Facebook page “Lions Clubs International District 105BS England & Wales”. The District website is continually being updated and a new feature is a section for the Environmental Newsletter, look in the Community Section. Remember that you can report good news on the website, go to Members Area dropdown menu.

The 2016-2017 MD Directory is in the Lions Form

The Visiting Lion competition is going well, please remember that you have to return a completed form to Sarah within 21 days of the event. That is so it can be sent it to MDHQ within 28 days. Also, each Lion can only claim for one event per day.

David Elliott



## Youth Exchange 2016

Thirty three students, from many different countries, arrived in the UK on Tuesday 19th July. Ten of them were met, at Manchester Airport, by their hosts from District BS. Despite several complications with connecting flights all arrived safely, if not exhausted. And so began the Youth Exchange 2016 in District BS for the next 10 days.

YEX D.O. Pauline Hodgkinson, of Stoke-on-Trent Lions, had organised several days out for the group - Liverpool, including the Cavern; Llandudno and Chester. Occasionally these trips were a bit like herding cats but all of the girls seemed to enjoy the experiences. We were very impressed that they knew the words to the Beatles' songs being played in the Cavern.



They were escorted round Llandudno by Tim Faulkener and Brian Casson from Llandudno Lions. The girls were told about the connection of the town with Alice in Wonderland, walked on the Pier and some went on the beach. Then it was time for a pub lunch followed by a trip up the Great Orme on the tram. The wind was bracing, but it stayed dry! They rounded off the day with fish and chips after giving the girls some free time in the town.

Chester was a combination of history, fun, friendship and food. The history of Chester is in the architecture, the Roman Walls and the Medieval Rows. The fun was with the Town Crier, David Mitchell, when he tried to greet all the girls in their own language and then put PDG Carole Godden in the stocks. Lunch was enjoyed by all in a restaurant that served both English and International cuisine. Then the girls were let loose in the shops while the Lions retired to the pub!



Ellesmere Port & District Lions hosted an International Food Fest, when all the YEX girls brought a dish from their own country. A total of 31 'diners' enjoyed food from Austria, Belarus, Denmark, Greece, Israel, Norway, Sweden, Slovakia and the Ukraine with several Lions adding dishes from Bangladesh, France, Gibraltar, Italy, Mexico, Nigeria, South Africa and, of course, scones with clotted cream and strawberry jam to accompany them. A veritable feast!

Then it was time to see them all off to the Camp, this year being held in Dumfries, Scotland, with District NE organising a packed 10 days of activities for all the YEX students visiting our shores this year. Hosts and girls from District BS met at Crewe Station, corralled the suitcases and said our farewells to the girls. Getting them all on the train was a little chaotic with passengers ensconced in the seats reserved for our girls but, apparently this was soon rectified by the guard. We really didn't them 'walking' all the way to Carlisle.



Hosts were Pauline and Bill Hodgkinson (Stoke-on-Trent), Carole and Edward Godden (Stoke-on-Trent), Teresa and Don Nickson (Buckley and Mold), Ros and Jeff Dixon (Stafford) and Margaret Marsh (Ellesmere Port & District). Hosting Youth Exchange students is what Lionism is all about - Fun, Fellowship and supporting Youth.

Margaret Marsh  
Ellesmere Port & District Lions

# Centenary News



## Only 4 months to go to our very special year

Get thinking what your club could do to focus a spotlight on our centenary. Let the public know who we are and what we do – and having been doing for the last 100 years.

It's a good opportunity to revisit some past successes and remind your community of just how much the Lions have contributed to local projects over the years.

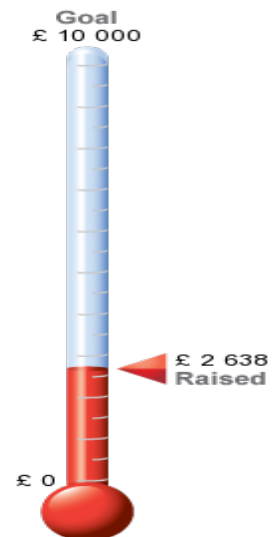
### A quarter of a dog so far

One of our targets is to raise £10,000 to fund the training of a Hearing Dog to be allocated to someone in our district area.

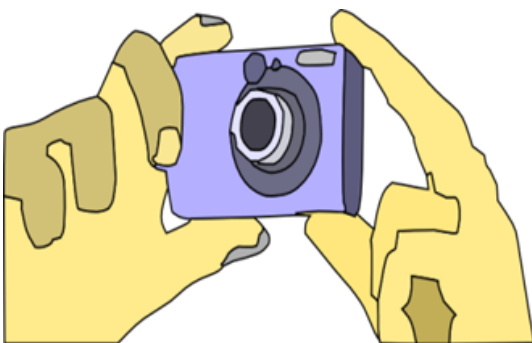
So far 9 clubs have contributed and raised a total of £2,638, well done to them, a great start.

Could your club help move the thermometer further towards our goal?

Just send donation to the District Treasurer made payable to Lions District 105BS endorsed Hearing Dogs on the back.



### Don't forget to keep the camera handy



Looking out for photo opportunities.

Our Centenary SNAP 100 competition is easy to enter. All you need to do is take a picture of the numerals "100" and send it in. Lions are known to be ingenious and inventive so let's see what unusual forms and positions we can find.

Judges will be looking for creativity as well as quality prints. Full details were in the July mailing.

100 years of service to the community is something well worth celebrating . Please continue to report your activities via MyLCI so we can gather some impressive figures of what we achieve altogether.

Any photographs or news items would be welcome for the special centenary edition of the newsletter for 2017.

For more information contact District Centennial Chair PDG Shirley Vaughan

## Sahara Challenge

My reasons for taking on the challenge are as follows:

As Lions we are used to raising funds; in addition, almost everyone has experienced the turmoil of knowing a family member, close friend or colleague is terminally ill. For me that really hit home when my younger daughter spent many weeks in her first year of life in Birmingham Children's Hospital. There was a bed shortage and she was accommodated on the terminal cancer ward where I saw just how hard parents and siblings suffered along with patients.



I have lost friends and more recently my sister in law, but also become more aware of the wonderful support offered by hospices. Katherine House costs £7,500 a day to run and, as a charity, fund raising is a full time job.

I have spent many years roaming the mountains and hills of the UK, both alone and teaching mountain skills. As the Staffordshire Guide Association D of E Gold expedition trainer I have seen many wonderful young people thrive in the hills. The downside is that on my regular trips to St James's Palace Prince Philip or Prince Edward regularly ask

me why I am not wearing my Guide uniform!

When the lovely Chancellor of the Exchequer decided that I had reached the age where I deserved a State pension, I decided the time had come to try and make a major personal contribution to a charity. After reviewing the options I finally plumped for the Sahara Trek, tackling a new environment in a very different climate. 10 days of footslogging across sand and stony desert, culminating in an ascent (or two!) of a 1,000 foot high dune called Eric! I plan to get to the top before anyone younger than me so that I can give them some gentle encouragement from on high.

Looking forward to the silence, the fabulous night skies, the camaraderie and to raising at least £2,000. Not so sure about sand getting everywhere!

**What I need now is *you* to complete *your* challenge, which is to help me raise the money. If every Lion in the District donates just £1, that will add up to a fantastic amount, or you can visit my Just Giving**

**page ([www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Ivan-Poole](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Ivan-Poole)) if**

**you are feeling more generous. I plan to sport an LCI logo and hopefully take a**

**lion with me for photo opportunities. If a club supports me I hope to be in a position to give a talk if (when???) I return.**



You Tube has lots of videos of other groups on this challenge, just search Sahara Desert Charity Trek to see other sufferers doing it in the sand.

Ivan Poole Cannock Lions



### IPDG Chris' Thanks for Gift

IPDG Chris Aked thanked BS clubs for their parting gift – attendance at a Chelsea match against West Bromwich Albion at Stamford Bridge, London in December - at the handover event in Chester.

Chris' wife, Gillie, recommended the gift to Cabinet Secretary Rob Brown. She said: "He's been a life long Chelsea fan but living in Shropshire doesn't get much of a chance to see them play...and tickets are hard to get."

Chris said: "What a wonderful gift...but thank goodness she didn't pick the game against Leicester City...I couldn't bear the thought of another defeat by DG Steve's favourite team!"

### Llandudno Challenge

Saturday 3rd September the Llandudno Lions are supporting the Honda Goldwing Light Parade in the Town. The Goldwings which there will be over 150 of them will be on the prom during the day so visitors can see them up close. At 8pm they will be lit up and parade around the town. Money raised from this event will go to the RNLI.

Later in the month, members and friends of Llandudno Lions will be taking part in a zip wire challenge at the world's longest zip wire in Bethesda. The club will be there on Wednesday the 14th September from 3pm. Any one who would like to come along and see us off are most welcome. We are doing this challenge to raise money for our Prostate cancer clinic in April 2017 and towards the new Lifeboat station in Llandudno.

Best regards  
Martin Smith - Llandudno Lions

### TRAVELLING LIONS

District travelling/visiting lions competition up to 20 August 2016.

Stoke on Trent	67
Llandudno	56
Beaumaris Menai Aethwy	50
Wilmslow and District	48
Ellesmere Port and District	44
Cannock	37
Telford	34
Tamworth	32
Urmston	23
Leek	19
Uttoxeter	16
Newcastle	12
Flint and District	8
Congleton	7
Prestatyn & Rhyl	2
Stafford	1



Please can you send the completed forms to myself **within 21 days** of the event so I can get them to MD by 28 days.

**Lion Sarah Cowling**  
22 Foxlair Road,  
Manchester.  
M22 9RN

**Please note, one person can only claim for one event per day. I have had a few forms sent to me which cannot be included for this reason so, for example, if you claimed for the business meeting at convention you cannot claim for the banquet and ball for the same day .**



## **GNOSALL LIONS CLUB**

June and July is always a busy period in the Lionistic Year and this year it has been the same, as it is the time of year when we have a change of President, this time under the stewardship of Stuart Powell who took over from Pam Talbot on 1<sup>st</sup> July. The photograph attached shows Pam handing over the chain of office to Stuart at a very successful BBQ in front of Club members and guests. Stuart has selected as his Presidential Charity this year the Village Youth Club which is fantastic, as without the Youth we have no future, that is Lions and also the Village .

Before that Pam in the final act of her year as President was presented with a cheque for £300 from Asda Living at Queensville for use in the future for Gnosall Lions involvement with our Zone Projects at Waterworld and at the Foxfield Railway. They are two of the biggest highlights of our year.. Seeing the youngsters enjoying themselves accompanied by their families is very special to us all.

We also managed to fit in our final Table Top Sale and Tea Dance prior to our August break, but they both will be back with a bang in September.

Socially in addition to the Presidential handover we also had a great evening out to Shakespeare at the Castle in June, visited the International Eisteddfod in Llangollen to see an amazing version of Carmen, had a Skittles match against Eccleshall Mercia Rotary Club (which we lost) another BBQ in July and have a busy Social calendar planned for the remainder of the year. We believe, as you can see, in not only fund raising and supporting good causes but also in enjoying ourselves.

Looking forward we also have planned our Annual Last Night at the proms in November with the ever popular Rugeley Power Station Band, ably supported by the Military Wives Choir (Stafford), a Teddies Tombola and also possibly a Tombola for the turning on of the Christmas Lights in late November.

Well that's about it for this month as I am now off on holiday but will be back next month with more news of what we have planned for the village and surroundings in the coming months.

Rick Talbot.

***The copy deadline for the next issue of the District  
Newsletter is 22nd September 2016***

Please identify key people in any relevant photographs otherwise  
the impact of the story line may be lost.

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